

**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
STATE INSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM BOARD**

Arkansas Juvenile Assessment and Treatment Center  
1501 Woody Drive  
Alexander, Arkansas

Thursday, July 12, 2007

Members Present: Micheal Burden, Vice Chairman  
Stephen Foti  
Carlton Jones  
Clara Ferron  
Trudi Ramsey

DHS Staff Present: John Selig, Director, Department of Human Services  
Steven Jones, Deputy Director, Department of Human Services  
Rich Rosen, Attorney, DHS Office of Chief Counsel  
Ron Angel, Director, Division of Youth Services  
Doyle Young, Program Administrator, Division of Youth Services  
Charles Smith, Division of Behavioral Health Services  
Ed Hood, Division of Behavioral Health Services  
Liz Ganahl, Admin Asst, Division of Youth Services

Vice Chairman Mr. Micheal Burden called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

Mr. John Selig introduced Mr. Steven Jones as the new Deputy Director of the Department of Human Services and Mr. Ron Angel as the new Director for the Division of Youth Services. Mr. Steven Jones asked the SIS Board members to introduce themselves.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 12, 2007 MEETING**

**Mr. Stephen Foti made a motion for the minutes of the April 12, 2007 meeting to be approved as distributed. Ms. Trudi Ramsey seconded the motion. Motion was passed.**

**DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES REPORT**

The Division of Behavioral Health Services Quarterly report had been previously distributed and is attached to the meeting minutes.

Mr. Charles Smith, Arkansas State Hospital (ASH), Division of Behavioral Health Services, (DBHS) presented the report.

Arkansas State Hospital

Mr. Charles Smith referred to the DBHS quarterly report handout and stated the roof leaks and smoke alarm problems are routine problems and continue from month to month but was being taken care of. Mr. Smith stated the new lower Unit 3 is being renovated for dually diagnosed youths and it will be a sixteen (16) bed unit for adolescents with mental retardation and mental illness.

Mr. Smith said the new state hospital is 39% complete with a move in date of June 2008.

Mr. Smith said in the original discussions, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, (UAMS) proposed taking over the administrative part of the forensic buildings which includes the cafeteria and some office spaces up front, but UAMS didn't have the money to proceed so everything was taken off of the table. UAMS wants to talk about the buildings again. Mr. Smith said originally UAMS had proposed in exchange, to build a new administrative area for forensic that would tie into the existing forensic buildings and into the new hospital. Mr. Smith said ASH would be interested in talking to them. Mr. Smith also said in longer range, UAMS was also interested in the Fuller building because it fits into their plan to have an interstate exit ramp off I-630 to allow direct traffic access to the new Psychiatric Institute. UAMS have not returned any exact proposals.

Arkansas Health Center

Mr. Ed Hood reported on the Arkansas Health Center (AHC). Mr. Hood said the Birch Tree, Inc. Project has been making some minor modifications upgrading the look of their building by putting up new awnings.

Mr. Hood stated Building 70 is 85% complete with replacing the carpet flooring and Building 80 is complete with the kitchen floor repair.

Mr. Hood reported due to funding, the joint venture with the Game and Fish Commission to get a large wheelchair accessible fishing pier for the residents will not be possible until FY 2009. Mr. Hood stated through other funding something smaller might be possible.

Mr. Hood continued to report on the AHC pump sight facility. After gating and locking the facility, there have been very few problems.

Arkansas Services Center - Jonesboro

Mr. Rich Rosen reported he had met with the Arkansas State University (ASU) attorney and discussed their respective views of the issues regarding the piece of property in question. They made an intensive review of all documents. There are three (3) pieces of the property in dispute. Mr. Rosen said there are four (4) acres by the road that will be returned to DBHS in 2009, there is an area of twenty five (25) acres with nothing on it, and there are thirty nine (39) acres where the center is and DBHS will get a percentage of that in 2008. Mr. Rosen said three (3) attorneys

from the Office of Chief Counsel (OCC) have gone through all of the documents dating back to 1966. Mr. Rosen felt there should not be any dispute because the documents were clear but it was discovered ASU didn't have a copy of the original "Exhibit A" from the original lease. Mr. Rosen said they will not settle for anything less than what they are entitled to. Mr. Rosen said OCC has not heard anything back from ASU.

**Mr. Stephen Foti made a motion to accept the DBHS report. Mr. Carlton Jones seconded the motion. The motion was passed.**

#### DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES REPORT

The Division of Youth Services (DYS) report had been previously distributed to the Board and is attached to the minutes.

Mr. Ron Angel, the Director of the Division of Youth Services, thanked the SIS Board for coming to the Arkansas Juvenile Assessment and Treatment Center and to G4S for their hospitality at the facility. Mr. Angel stated even though he was relatively new with DHS and DYS, he has a lot of ideas and plans and is working with Mr. Jones, looking at the organizations' structure and deciding where to go next.

Mr. Angel stated in order to provide protection and specialized treatment for juveniles with developmental diagnosis, a feasibility study was done on the remodeling of the Mac Building. It was determined the remodeling would run 60% of the replacement costs of the building. DYS is proceeding with the procurement process for design, engineering and construction supervision services of new facilities at the campus. The \$15M the legislature appropriated for construction is the first step toward the remodeling of the campus. Mr. Angel said DYS would supply a thorough short and long term plan for the facility and would have the SIS Board review it. Mr. Angel complimented G4S on the clean up of the facility but also felt there was still a lot of repair work to be done on the facility.

Mr. Selig said even though the legislature appropriated \$15M for construction at Alexander, it doesn't mean the \$15M has been funded and this money is set aside waiting for us to spend it. DYS still has to present a proposal and make a convincing argument to the Governor. Mr. Selig felt if DYS gets their proposal together quickly then it will look like DYS is doing something to make this a permanent facility.

Mr. Micheal Burden said with the bad press DYS has received concerning Alexander, he felt DYS could easily convince the public that this is the facility the state needs. Mr. Burden said he could understand why the public wanted to shut down the facility in the condition it was. Mr. Burden said now that G4S has taken over, he wanted to state on record on how the facility was much cleaner including the grounds and landscaping, the buildings floors and walls, but especially the bathrooms.

Mr. Doyle Young reported DYS currently is taking an air conditioner survey with the plan to put them all in a database to assist in planning and projection of cost of replacements and energy usage. Mr. Young said the Taggart Architect Firm has been approved by the Peer Committee at the Legislative Council on July 11, 2007, and will go into effect on August 1, 2007. Mr. Young said there is funding for re-engineering the fire protection. The Mansfield Fire Department will allow DYS one (1) year to correct the problem but Mr. Young felt if DYS was seen as trying to correct the problem, the Fire Department would be willing to extend the agreement. There are some pending decisions to be made at the Mansfield facility concerning the replacement of the whole fire suppressant system. Mr. Ron Angel reported he, Mr. Jerry Berry and Mr. Steve Jones were going out to the Mansfield facility to look at the whole facility. Mr. Angel hoped to have recommendations to present to the SIS Board at the next meeting. Mr. Steve Jones stated Senator Madison tried to set some money aside for Mansfield but it didn't happen. Mr. Jones said DHS/DYS were trying to find other funding for the repairs at Mansfield.

Mr. Young continued to report the sewer lift station at the Dermott Intensive Treatment Unit was installed. A new replacement pump was installed in the existing pump station. During the installation it was noted that a sewer line from the campus by-passed the grease traps and the problem was remedied.

**Mr. Stephen Foti made a motion to accept the Division of Youth Services report. Ms. Trudi Ramsey seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

#### OLD BUSINESS

Vice Chairman Micheal Burden asked Mr. Stephen Foti to report on the Ray Winder Field. Mr. Foti stated it was a political mess because several groups want it. Mr. Foti understood DHS owned a piece of the property. Mr. Foti wanted to pursue where the payments for the cell tower were going and felt DHS should be getting part of them. Mr. Rich Rosen said he was not aware of a cell tower on the property. Mr. Rosen stated there was not a current lease for the Ray Winder Field and there has not been one for several years. Mr. Rosen said he would look into it and report back to the Board about the lease and cell tower.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Rich Rosen recommended that a resolution be adopted making a change to DHS State Institutional System Board Rule 1077.3.0 which presently refers to the facility as the Alexander Youth Services Center but will become the Arkansas Juvenile Assessment and Treatment Center, to be effective August 1, 2007. For purposes of these rules, "DHS institutions" means the Arkansas State Hospital at Little Rock, the Arkansas Health Center at Benton, the Arkansas Juvenile Assessment and Treatment Center at Alexander, and all other institutions owned and/or operated by DHS for youth services, mental health services or both. It is further recommended that the resolution include the name of the long term care facility in Benton.

**Ms Clara Ferron made a motion to change the name. Mr. Carlton Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

Vice Chairman Micheal Burden reviewed policy 1077.9.3 stating the functions and duties of the Board is to review and furnish advice regarding any renovation or improvements to DHS institutional land and buildings if the anticipated cost of such renovation exceeds \$10,000. Mr. Burden felt the Board was not reviewing the improvements at the DYS facilities and this was violating the rules of the Board. Mr. Burden mentioned the Board did not want to micro manage the Divisions and realizes the items just need to be fixed. Mr. Rich Rosen suggested since the Board only meets quarterly, and not available for immediate reviewing and advice, to raise the amount to \$20,000, to give the Divisions more leeway. Mr. Doyle Young said this was a good amount because anything over \$20,000 has to be taken to the Arkansas Building Authority (ABA) for approval.

**Ms. Trudi Ramsey made a motion to change the amount to \$20,000. Mr. Carlton Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

#### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held October 11, 2007, at the DBHS Administration Building Conference Room, 4800 W. 7th, Little Rock, Arkansas. A tour of the new State Hospital will follow after the meeting.

**Ms. Clara Ferron made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Carlton Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted:

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Mark Tripp, Secretary